

I would like to add my voice to the opposition to HR 4026. As a subscriber to satellite radio for the past year, I feel very strongly about this emerging communication medium. I was extremely pleased when XM announced local weather and traffic service was being added to their diverse selection of channels. I have enjoyed this service for the past 2 months and during this period it has helped me avoid several traffic situations that would have otherwise delayed me unnecessarily. The National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) and their lobbyists are attempting to restrict satellite radio from offering local weather and traffic services. I choose satellite radio to free myself from the stagnation that offered from my local radio stations. The NAB fears that satellite radio will continue to erode local broadcasters listener base. The problem with their assumption is a listener to satellite radio is very unlikely to return to local broadcasting knowing full well they will have to wade through boring content and excessive advertisements that make up commercial radio. I want what satellite radio can provide. I pay for this privilege! If the NAB wants to keep its listener base then they should look within their own house. This of course will reveal that a costly overhaul of commercial radio would be required. Competition is a fundamental force which keeps industries innovating. I see that this type of competition as an opportunity for the NAB to re-innovate its industry to provide a better service to keep commercial radio attractive for listeners looking for free entertainment.

Commercial radio and satellite radio can coexist with one another. Just look at satellite TV, it now offers local channels competing directly with free local broadcasters. Why shouldn't satellite radio be allowed the opportunity. This bill needs to be defeated. Please help. Contact your local representatives and let your voice be heard!